

Amendments to the Drawings:

Attached to the end of this Reply are Replacement and Annotated Sheets
of Figure 1.

REMARKS

Favorable consideration and allowance are requested for claims 6, 8, and 16-26 in view of the following remarks.

Status of the Application

Claims 6, 8, and 16-26 are pending in this application. Claims 1 and 6-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2, as being indefinite. Claims 1-4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,404,075 to Potter *et al.* (the “Potter patent”). Claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,194,794 to Lampe *et al.* (the “Lampe patent”) in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0084697 to Radusewicz (the “Radusewicz publication”). Claims 1-5, 7, and 9-15 have been canceled. Claims 6 and 8 have been amended. Claims 16-26 have been added.

Amendment to the Specification

Minor edits have been made to the specification in view of the Examiner’s remarks concerning Figure 1. No new matter has been added.

Amendment to Figure

Figure 1 has been amended in view of the Examiner’s remarks concerning reference characters 6 and 7. No new matter has been added.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1 and 6-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter. Claims 1, 5, 7, and 9-15 have been canceled.

Claims 6 and 8 have been amended to recite, in part, that it is “balance-controlling” (claim 6) or the fact that the system is “balance-controlled” (claim 8) that brings the consumption and generation amounts close to one another. *See also* Specification at page 4, lines 23-26 (“According to the present power supply system and power supply method, the power consumption of the plurality of loads and the power generation amount of the distributed power source can be brought into balance.”). For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 6 and 8 be withdrawn.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1-4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by the Potter patent. Claims 1-4 have been cancelled. In addition, Applicants assert that the Potter patent does not anticipate any of newly added claims 16-18, as it does not disclose at least “said first control unit adjusts the load amounts of loads based on a rated capacity of each load and a present load amount of each load in accordance with the command signal” (claim 16); “the adjusting of the power consumption is adjusting of the load amounts of loads based on a rated capacity of each load and a present load amount of each load” (claim 17); and “a command device for issuing a command signal to said switch controller based on the date-time information of planned service interruption stored in said planned service interruption database” (claim 18). As each of claims 19-26 depends directly or indirectly from claim 18, these claims are also not anticipated by the Potter patent.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Lampe patent in view of the Radusewicz publication. Claim 6 has been amended. Applicants assert that neither the Lampe patent nor the Radusewicz publication teaches or suggests the “command device for issuing a command signal” as recited in claim 6. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 6 be withdrawn.

For the same reasons as discussed with respect to claim 6, claim 8, as amended, is patentable in view of the Lampe patent and the Radusewicz publication. Further, newly added claims 16-26 are patentable in view of the Lampe patent and the Radusewicz publication as neither reference teaches or discloses the subject matter claimed therein. For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully assert that each of claims 16-26 is in condition for allowance.


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If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #056205.55944US).

Respectfully submitted,

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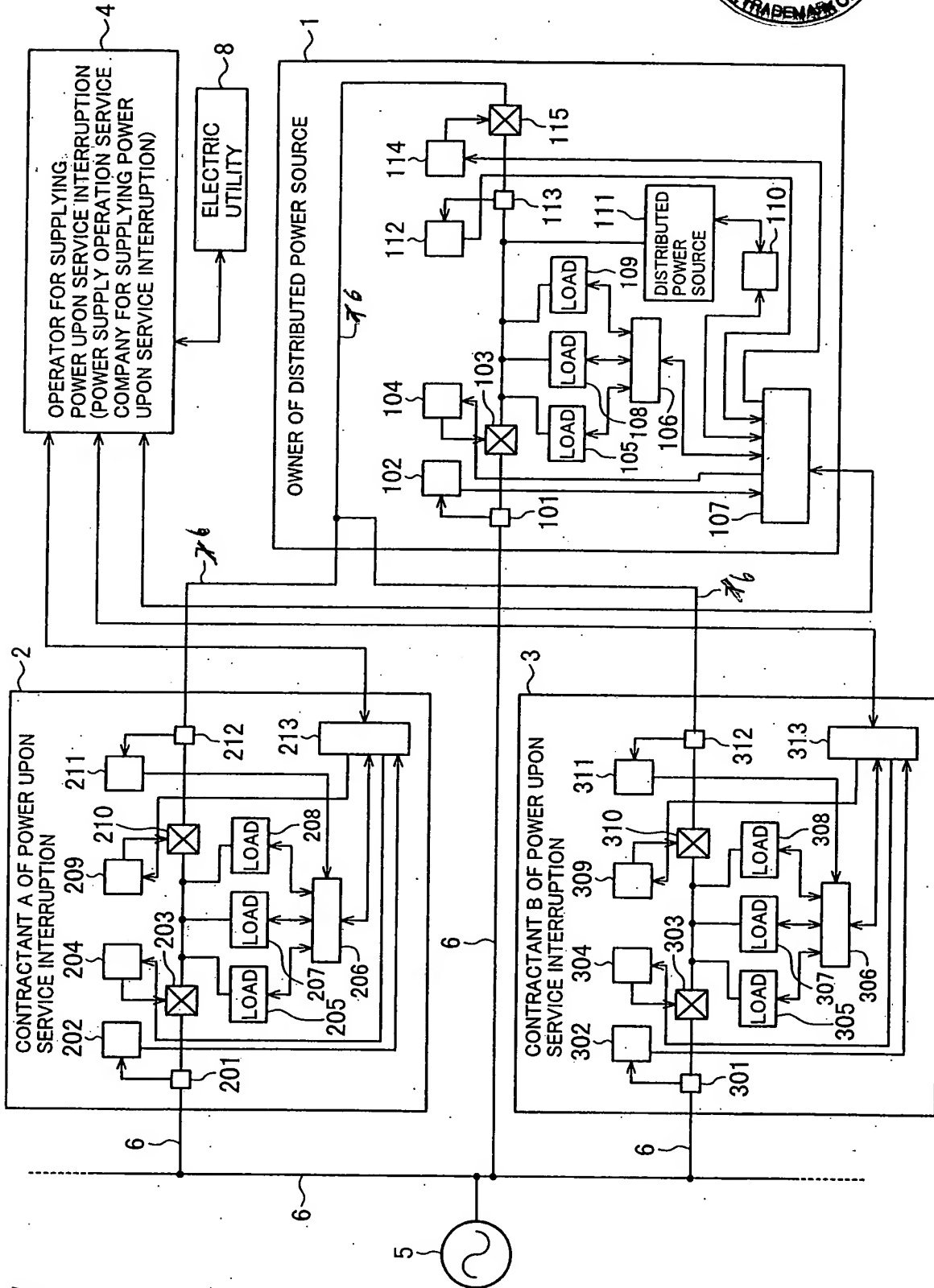


FIG. 1